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# A new species of *Euphorbia* L. (Euphorbiaceae) from India

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**Abstract**

*Euphorbia concanensis* (Euphorbiaceae) is described and illustrated as a new species from Maharashtra, India.

During one of our recent explorations along the Konkan region, we collected an interesting specimen belonging to the genus *Euphorbia* subgen. *Chamaesyce* sect. *Longistylae*. The keeled capsules of this specimen are distinct with ridges along the sutures. Subsequent studies in consultation with experts in the group revealed that it is an undescribed species. It is being described here as a new species.

**Euphorbia concanensis** Janarthanam et Yadav, *sp. nov.* **(Fig. 1)**

*Euphorbiae notopterae* affinis, in capsulis secus suturas prominente porcatis exalatis differt.

Typus: India, Maharashtra, Sindhudurg district, Achirane between Phonda and Vaibhavadi, 20-9-1993, *Janarthanam & Yadav* 1002 (CAL - holotype; BSI, MH - isotypes).

A perennial decumbent herb, 10–30 cm long. Stem slender, red at base, green above, up to 1 mm in diameter; internodes 1–7 cm long. Leaves opposite, stipulate, petiolate, equal in size, 5–11 x 3–5 mm, oblong, oblique at base, serrulate, acute to obtuse at apex, glabrous; stipules triangular, toothed; petiole up to 1 mm long. Cyathia terminal, solitary; peduncles up to 7 mm long, glabrous; involucre turbinate, red, glabrous, lobes laciniate; glands 4, transversely oblongoid, brown in colour; limbs of the glands prominent, subequal, obovate, wavy in outline, rosy–pink in colour. Male flowers numerous; pedicels up to 1.5 mm long; filaments up to 0.7 mm long; anthers transversely dehiscing. Female flowers: Ovary triquetrous; styles 3, free from base, each bifid at apex. Capsules ovoid, ca. 2 x 3 mm, trigonous, distinctly keeled, prominently ridged along the sutures, glabrous, 3–seeded, maturing outside cyathia; fruiting pedicels up to 2 mm long, recurved. Seeds obtusely tetragonous, ca. 1.1 x 0.8 x 0.8 mm, truncate at base, rounded or slightly pointed at apex, tuberculate on faces, grey.

**A new species of *Euphorbia* L. (Euphorbiaceae) from India**

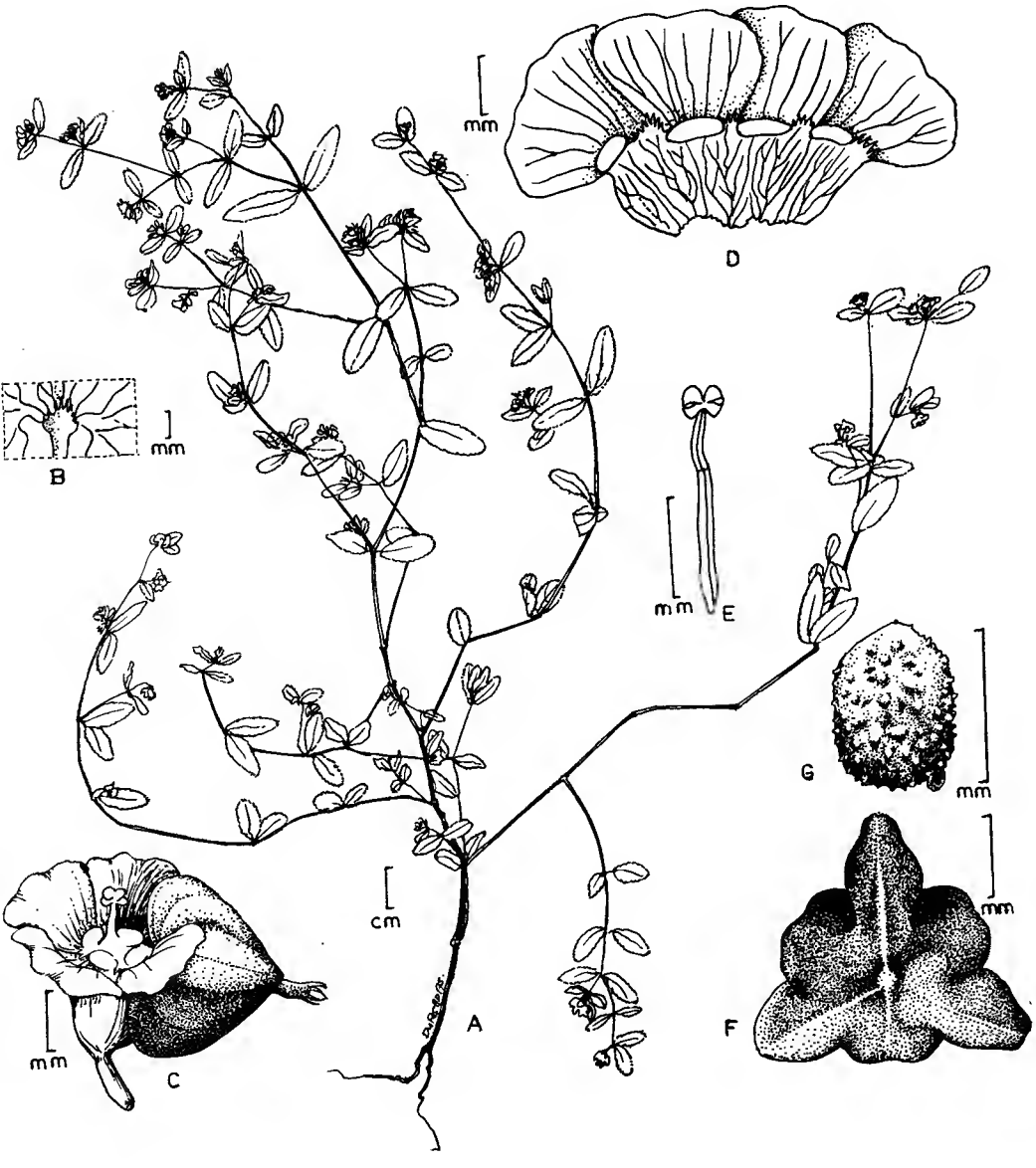


Fig. 1. *Euphorbia concanensis* Janarthanam et Yadav. A. Habit; B. Stipule; C. Cyathium with capsule; D. Involucre split open; E. Male flower; F. Capsule (top view); G. Seed.

*Flowering & Fruiting :* August — November.

*Habitat:* Grows on laterite rocks and red soil, amidst grasses and around the bushes.

*Note: Euphorbia concanensis* is allied to *E. notoptera* Boiss. but differs in having prominent ridges along the sutures and absence of wings on capsules. The species is named after the Konkan region from where the type specimen was collected.

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